

Connections

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY FAMILIES

Dates to remember

Now through Thursday, March 9 – 2023-24 Open Enrollment Period

Monday, March 6 – Read-a-Thon Returns! (see details on page 3 and attached letter)

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, March 7, 9 & 10 - Parent-Teacher Conferences (see booking links with times on page 3)

Thursday, March 9 – 7th Grade Orientation Meeting (for parents of current 6th graders), 6:00 pm, Aqua 5

Thursday, March 16 – Band Jam 2023, 6:30-8:00 pm, Big Gym (see details on page 2)

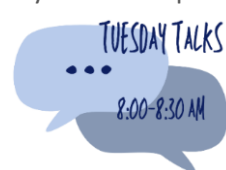
Friday, March 17 – Mustang & High School Chamber Choirs Midwinter Concert, 6:00-7:00 pm, Big Gym

Enrollment Information Meetings conclude

Grand Traverse Academy's Open Enrollment period for the 2023-24 school year **continues through Thursday, March 9**. One Enrollment Information Meeting remains on Monday, March 6, and includes a brief presentation, time for Q & A and a tour of our facilities. If you have friends or family members who are interested in learning more about Grand Traverse Academy for their children, please invite them to contact us at (231) 995-0665 or enrollment@mygta.us to reserve their spot at one of these meetings. **Individual tours with a school leader are also available by appointment.**

Tuesday Talks continue

If you have a question or concern, want to know more

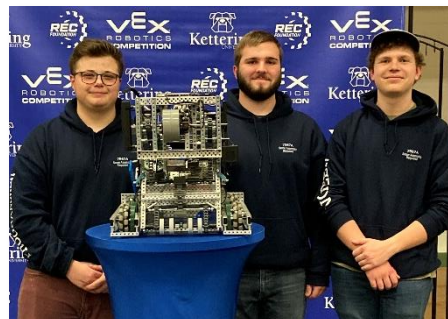


about Choice Theory, character education or other GTA topic, **Michelle Floering**, superintendent, will be in the south entrance lobby (outside the Elementary Office)

every Tuesday morning from 8:00-8:30 am. No appointment necessary!

Robotics Club competes in state championship

A big congratulations to GTA Robotics Team 7567A



(Ashton Cherup, Coleman Mroczkowski and Isaac Deneau) on their performance at the VEX Robotics

competition at Kettering University last weekend, reaching the quarterfinals of the VRC Blue Division Michigan State Championship. An unfortunate Endgame technical problem knocked them out of contention for the semifinals but they finished the competition in 6th place out of a total of 38 teams from across the state. We thank **Mrs. Callahan**, robotics coach, for her support and leadership. In her words, "The team's character was apparent throughout the weekend, as they were quick to share resources with other teams, lend an extra hand and troubleshoot problems as incredible representatives of Grand Traverse Academy."

NJHS drive a success

Many thanks to all who contributed to the NJHS



food/personal care items drive during last week's Secondary Frost Fest. Because of your generosity, **Mrs. McCann**,

group advisor, was able to deliver a carload of nearly 1,200 donated items to the Father Fred Pantry! For junior high, Mrs. Toners advisory collected the most items (366) and won an ice cream party for their efforts. Sophomores came in second with 185 and freshmen took third with 169.

GTA participating with TADL in library card program

If your child(ren) are new to GTA this year, you should



have received an email message from us on March 1 about our partnership with the Traverse Area District

Library (TADL). The goal is to encourage students to take advantage of our local libraries and all the services they offer by simplifying the process of obtaining a library card. Be sure to check your email for details and an opportunity to opt out of this program, if you prefer.

Important carpool information

If you pick your children up at south carpool (elementary entrance) after school, please know that our preference is that you use the carpool lanes in order to keep exiting traffic moving. If you choose to park in the lot and walk children to your car, be aware that it may take some time to exit the lot and get into the traffic flow to turn onto Hammond Road. Thank you for your help in keeping carpool as quick and efficient as possible.

Simply the Best is back!

As you may know, Grand Traverse Academy was voted



Best School in the Traverse City Record-Eagle 2022 Simply the Best of Northern Michigan contest.

What's more, Jocelyn Bohrer and Maria Drost tied as runners-up for Best Teacher! We thank all of our community members who made this honor possible, which provided great exposure and promotion for our school to the many thousands of northern Michigan residents who nominated, voted and viewed the presentation video. **Nominations for Simply the Best 2023 opened on February 15** and we appear once again in the Best School and Best Teacher subcategories, as well as Best Workplace. If you are so inclined, we invite you to visit <https://www.record-eagle.com/simplythebest> and cast your votes in support of Grand Traverse Academy. Best School and Best

Teacher can be found under the Children, Family & Education category. **Note that you may nominate an individual or organization once per day and nominations may be submitted until May 14.** (If you submit at least 25 nominations, you might be one of three lucky winners to receive a \$100 Downtown Traverse City gift certificate!) Voting for the top three nominees in each subcategory will run from May 22-July 30 and winners will be announced in September.

Save the date for Band Jam 2023!

We hope you'll plan on joining us on **Thursday, March**



16, when junior high and high school bands will perform Classic Rock from the 70's & 80's from 6:30-8:00 pm. A \$5 donation per person will be collected at the door. Proceeds from this popular event go toward both a scholarship fund to support the musical endeavors of our students and the purchase of additional equipment for

BAND JAM 2023

our band program. If you, your business or your workplace are interested in becoming a Band Jam sponsor, contributors of \$25-1,000+ will be recognized both at the event and in the program. Checks may be dropped off or mailed to GTA at 1245 Hammond Road East, Traverse City 49686 with "GTA Band Jam" written on the memo line. Business donations may also be picked up by contacting Mr. Floering at floeringg@mygta.us.

Registration deadlines approaching for some spring sports

If your children are interested in track & field or boys' golf, the deadlines for registration are coming soon:

High School Track & Field – March 7
Boys' Golf – March 7
Elementary Track & Field – March 22
Junior High Track & Field – March 22

Registration forms for both [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) are available on the GTA website or on the rack outside the Secondary Office.

Read-a-thon begins Monday!

March is National Reading Month and the GTA Family



Council wants to remind you of our two-week Read-A-Thon fundraiser for grades K-8, **starting Monday, March 6 and continuing**

through Friday, March 17. Read-A-Thon will help your child to get excited about reading and give friends and family an opportunity to encourage them even more! Paperwork has been sent home with your reader explaining how to activate their personal Read-A-Thon page. By using the promotional tools found there, friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for your reader by making a donation to our Read-A-Thon. Your involvement will help your child develop a lasting love of reading.

➔ **IMPORTANT UPDATE:** Thanks to your enthusiasm, **we have already raised over \$2,100 in Read-A-Thon donations** and the event doesn't officially start until Monday! With everyone's participation, we think we can raise a total of \$18,000...imagine what that could do to add to our teachers' classroom library shelves and activity accounts! We encourage you to activate your reader's account today by visiting <https://www.read-a-thon.com/readers/r/kmvvqa/1> Anything your child can raise will be so appreciated. What's more, we're raising awareness of the fun of reading while we build literacy skills!

P.S. If you own a business and would like to support GTA's Read-A-Thon (or have an employer or know of a local business that might), please see the attached letter and flyer.

Family Council plans used uniform sale during conferences

The GTA Family Council will hold a used uniform sale during our upcoming parent-teacher conference evening hours. Dates and times are as follows:

Date	Time
Tuesday, March 7	4:20-6:00 pm
Thursday, March 9	4:20-6:00 pm
Friday, March 10	12:20-2:00 pm

The sale takes place in the Staff Gathering Room (just past the elementary lobby and before the entrance to the big gym). A new twist this year, due to an abundance of royal blue (junior high) shirts, is a shirt swap: give a light blue or navy blue shirt and receive a royal blue one at no charge. If you have clean, gently used GTA uniform pieces that you would like to donate to the sale, please drop them off in either office no later than Monday, March 6. Proceeds will support Family Council events and projects that benefit all of our families. Thank you in advance for anything you can contribute.

Register now for parent-teacher conferences!

Second semester parent-teacher conferences are



planned for **March 7, 9 & 10** for both elementary and secondary students. To schedule yours, use the following links to SchoolBookings, our online conference manager.

Elementary (Code s5xa7)



<https://www.schoolbookings.net/code/s5xa7>
(Call 995-0665 with questions)

Secondary (Code 8jbtb)



<https://www.schoolbookings.net/code/8jbtb>
(Call 932-6038 with questions)

All parents/guardians are encouraged to participate in parent-teacher conferences as a way to stay connected with teachers, share concerns and successes, and send a message to your children that school is important. The more their parents are involved, the better children perform in school. We look forward to seeing you!

A note from Family Council

Parent-teacher conferences are next week! The GTA Family Council will once again be providing dinner for teachers and staff members who stay during evening conferences. These are long days with just a short break for dinner. Please click on the links below to bring an item, help set up the room or donate toward the purchase of pizza. There are still a handful of slots available.



[Tuesday, March 7, 2023 Conferences](#)

[Thursday, March 9, 2023 Conferences](#)

Your contribution of any kind or amount is greatly appreciated!

School absences or late arrivals

If your child will be late for school or absent for the day, **please call the office by 8:30 am**. Parents will be contacted to verify any unexcused absences after that time.

Elementary 995-0665 / Secondary 932-6038

Huffman Basketball Skills Camp returns

Huffman Basketball Skills Camp will return to Grand Traverse Academy on **Monday, June 19-Friday, June 23**. For details and registration information, see the attached flyer or visit www.trevorhuffman.com.

2023-24 secondary school registration in process

Our course catalog for junior high and high school classes offered in the 2023-24 school year has been published! You can find it on the GTA website under the Students tab by choosing [Secondary Course Catalog](#).

Secondary registration open.

- Current 7th -11th graders and their parents should review the 2023-24 course catalog and select and register for classes via the registration portal on PowerSchool. The portal will remain open through the end of March.

- Mrs. Patrzik and Mrs. Wahl will visit classrooms to meet with students to provide guidance and answer questions.

Dual enrollment registration for Fall 2023 begins!

- Current 10th & 11th graders interested in dual enrollment at Northwestern Michigan College must attend a mandatory meeting to learn more about the process, benefits and potential risks related to enrolling in college as a high school student. Two meetings are planned and students must select one before registration opens on March 8. Students have received a sign-up sheet via email for the first meeting, which takes place on Monday, March 6.

Ongoing events

Med Club Muffin Sales (Secondary) – Every Monday from 7:45-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multi-Purpose Room

Sophomore Class Bagel Sales – Every Wednesday from 7:40-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multipurpose Room 4 and the Intention Room (Mrs. VanHouzen's office)

Elementary Pizza Days – Every other Wednesday, as follows: March 8 & 22, April 12 & 26 and May 10 & 24 (order and pay by the preceding Monday using forms sent home on off weeks), \$1.50 per slice of pepperoni or cheese

Secondary Pizza Days – Every Thursday (order and pay by Tuesdays using forms provided in Advisory classrooms), \$1.50 per slice of cheese or pepperoni

NHS Secondary Doughnut Sales – Every Friday in Multipurpose Rooms 1 & 2, 7:40-8:00 am, \$2 each for several varieties

Secondary Beverage Sales – Monday-Thursday at Lunch in Bronze 1, \$1.50 each for Snapple fruit drinks

Fill the Pantry Jeans Days – Thursdays: March 23, May 25 (\$2 per person to wear jeans with a uniform top)



March, 2023

Dear Neighbors,

Did you know that each junior high language arts and elementary classroom at Grand Traverse Academy has an individual library for their students? The GTA Family Council would love to help provide funds to add to these libraries by holding a Read-a-thon fundraiser for grades K-8 from March 6 through March 17. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward classroom libraries and activity accounts, and will also support teacher and staff appreciation events throughout the year.

Through our Read-a-thon, we aim to bring students together with family, friends and businesses in our communities to encourage reading and to build literacy skills. The Read-a-thon promises to be a fun, exciting journey for all participants as they begin a personal Reading Adventure!

As a fellow community member, we are asking for your financial support for this exciting reading event. For your financial contribution, you will receive a free digital ad which could be seen over 23,000 times! Your logo will also appear on hundreds of t-shirts which will be given to students and staff for GTA Field Day events in June. Your company will also be promoted as a supporter of our Read-a-thon on GTA's Facebook page and weekly newsletter.


Please see the attached flyer for levels of participation and additional sponsorship benefits! Know that any contribution amount helps and will go a long way in building our students' literacy skills.

We appreciate your consideration and thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

Kristin Boogaard
GTA Family Council
kristinboogaard@gmail.com



 Traverse City, MI

Promote Your Business Support GTA Family Council Use Read-A-Thon Ads

Schools and local businesses go hand in hand. Consider supporting the students at GTA Family Council, by sponsoring an ad at our upcoming Read-A-Thon. There are three levels of sponsorship, offering you both digital and print options to showcase your business to reader's families, friends and community supporters.

The Average School Ad Receives Nearly 10,000 Views Ad Sponsorship Levels

Reading Supporter	Reading Advocate	Reading Champion
\$200.00	\$500.00	\$1500.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Limited spots available✓ Digital ad on all fundraising pages✗ Color Print ad sent home with students✗ Full color ad on back bookmark for every student	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Limited spots available✓ Digital ad on all fundraising pages✓ Color Print ad sent home with students✗ Full color ad on back bookmark for every student	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Limited spots available✓ Digital ad on all fundraising pages✓ Color Print ad sent home with students✓ Full color ad on back bookmark for every student

Get Started Today!

Visit www.read-a-thon.com/donate/

And enter the code to get started

Your Secret Code:

54029





HUFFMAN
BASKETBALL



HUFFMAN BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP

@ GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL |

COST: \$250

SCHEDULE: MONDAY JUNE 19TH- FRIDAY JUNE

23RD , 2023

7TH-12TH GRADE BOYS/GIRLS: 5:00PM - 7:30PM

HB CAMP NOTES & RULES

****Check-in begins 15 minutes before each session***

****Offensive skill work: shooting, finishing footwork, triple threat, dribble moves***

****Pick and roll, shooting programs, post moves, BDT, and FIBA 3x3 concepts***

****Will have live games of 1v1, 2v2, and 3v3***

****Film breakdown studying game movements, spacing, situations etc.***

****Led by Pro Skills Coach Wills Lee***

****Trusted by the top youth to elite players in the state.***



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BASKETBALL

REGISTER @
TREVORHUFFMAN.COM



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BASKETBALL